



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

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Service

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AUGUST RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production during August 2003 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was 52 percent above July 2003, but 3 percent below August 2002 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 607,000 pounds, unchanged from August 2002. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight at 1044 pounds was down 37 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 217,000 pounds, down 10 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight at 234 pounds was down 13 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial Sheep and Lamb slaughter totaled 13,000 pounds, unchanged from last year. Sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 100 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight at 126 pounds was up 14 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES —Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in August, down 5 percent from the 4.14 billion pounds produced in August 2002.

August 2002 contained 22 weekdays and 5 Saturdays.

August 2003 contained 21 weekdays and 5 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.33 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.13 million head, down 2 percent from August 2002. The average live weight was down 34 pounds from the previous year, at 1,225 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, a new monthly low and 15 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,700 head, down 17 percent from August 2002. The average live weight was 5 pounds above last year, at 294 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.56 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.04 million head, 6 percent below August 2002. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 260 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.7 million pounds, was down 6 percent from August 2002 and was a new monthly low. Sheep slaughter totaled 241,200 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, up 3 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2003 commercial red meat production was 31.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down slightly, pork was down slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 10 percent.